BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri, for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996

File No. IK-2023-0133

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and submits its *Recommendation* as follows:

1. On October 13, 2022, pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-28.013(2)(B), Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T Missouri filed with the Public Service Commission its *Application for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement* between itself and Big River Telephone Company, LLC under the provisions of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

2. 47 USC 252(e)(2) (1996) provides that a state commission may reject an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation only if the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to it or its implementation is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

3. In lieu of a Memorandum, Staff hereby states that the amendment to the Interconnection Agreement does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not parties to it, nor is its implementation inconsistent with the public interest, convenience or necessity. A copy of the Agreement was filed with the Application. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Missouri is certified with the Commission as an incumbent local exchange carrier. Big River Telephone Company, LLC is certificated with the Commission as a competitive local exchange and interexchange carrier.

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WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission approve the Application and grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Ron Irving</u>

Ron Irving Senior Counsel Missouri Bar No. 56147 Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P. O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-8702 (Telephone) (573) 751-9285 (Fax) ron.irving@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 17th day of November, to all counsel of record.

<u>/s/ Ron Irving</u>